

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed April 15, 2008, Applicants amended the specification to obviate objections thereto, so the objections should be withdrawn.

In addition, Applicants amended claims 1-7, 13 and 16, and cancelled claims 18 and 19. Applicants also added new claims 21-28. Applicants therefore present claims 1-17 and 20-28 for examination.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-11, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by US 2002/0108649 ("Fujimori"). As amended, claims 1-6 require a substrate having a structured surface. In making this rejection, the Examiner referred to Fig. 2 as showing that Fujimori's substrate 2 is structured. However, this is not shown in Fig. 2. Rather, the uneven lines at the lower and side edges of substrate 2 that are shown in Fig. 2 of Fujimori merely indicate that these are partial views, as is the custom in patent figures. One skilled in the art would readily understand this. Indeed, Fig. 8 of Fujimori, which shows a perspective view of an embodiment of his cell, clearly shows that the bottom surface of substrate 2 is not structured. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 7 and 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 02-124480 ("Ito"). But, as amended, these claims require an organic semiconductor having a planar surface. Ito does not disclose such subject matter, so Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Fujimori, Ito and/or USP 6,291,763 ("Nakamura"). As amended, these claims cover photovoltaic cells that include a substrate; a first electrode supported by the substrate; a first layer supported by the first electrode; a second layer supported by the first layer; a second electrode; and an organic semiconductor between the first and second electrodes, where the first electrode is structured, a surface of the first layer is structured, a surface of the second layer is planar, and a surface of the organic semiconductor is planar. None of Fujimori, Ito or Nakamura discloses such photovoltaic cells. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

The Examiner rejected claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujimori in view of Nakamura, or under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito in view of Nakamura. As amended, these claims cover photovoltaic cells that include a substrate having a structured surface; a first electrode supported the structured surface of the substrate; a second electrode; an organic semiconductor between the first and second electrodes, where a surface of the organic semiconductor is planar. Fujimori, whether taken alone or in combination with Nakamura, does not disclose or render obvious such photovoltaic cells. Moreover, Ito, whether taken alone or in combination with Nakamura, does not disclose or render obvious such photovoltaic cells. Applicants therefore request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

The Examiner rejected claims 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito in view of Fujimori. As amended, these claims cover photovoltaic cells that include a substrate having a structured surface; a first electrode supported the structured surface of the substrate; a second electrode; an organic semiconductor between the first and second electrodes, where a surface of the organic semiconductor is planar. Ito, whether taken alone or in combination with Fujimori, does not disclose or render obvious such photovoltaic cells. Applicants therefore request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

The fees for excess claims in the amount of \$460.00 are being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 21928-017US1.

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Respectfully submitted,

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